



# ACS Special Tabulation on Aging

September 11, 2013

Nate Ramsey – US Census Bureau  
Kristen Robinson – Administration on Aging



# Outline

## Introduction and Webinar Goals

### Nate

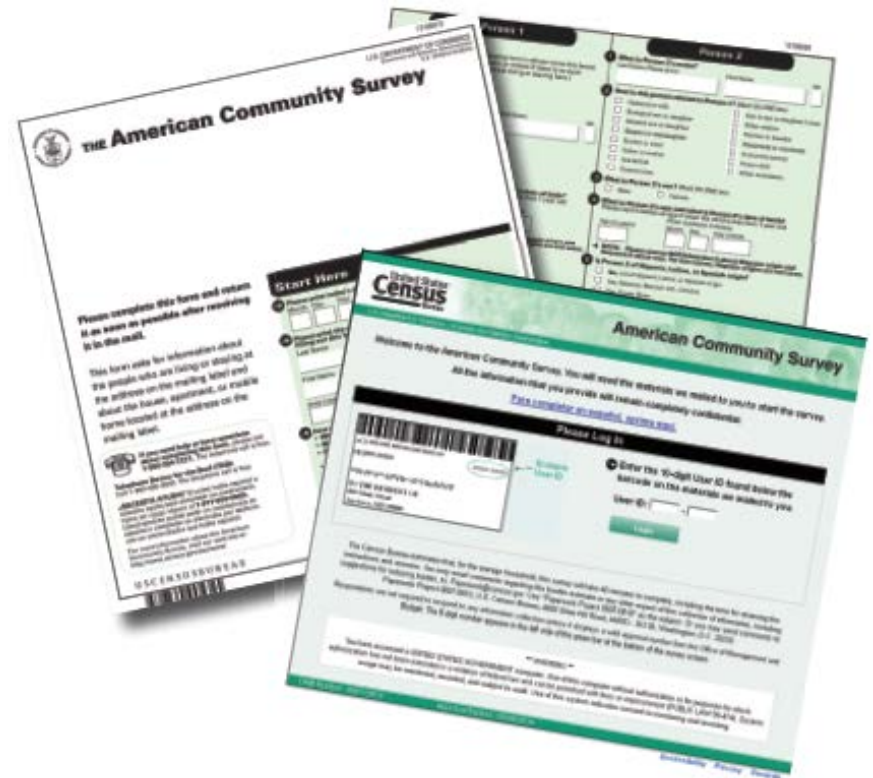
- ACS Overview
- Multiyear Estimates and Missing Data
- ACS Data Availability
- Resources for Learning More

### Kristen

- Purpose and Types of Special Tabulations
- Examples of Accessing Data in AGID
- Plans for Future Special Tabulations

# What is the ACS?

- A large national survey that uses continuous measurement methods to produce detailed population and housing estimates each year
- Designed to produce critical information that had previously come from the decennial census



# Census vs. ACS

## Decennial Census

## American Community Survey

Official counts

Sample estimates

Population totals

Population characteristics

Every 10 years

Yearly

Point in time, April 1

Period of time

# ACS Content: Population

- **SOCIAL**

- Ancestry
- Citizenship & Year of Entry
- Disability Status
- Educational Attainment
- Field of Degree
- Health Insurance
- Grandparents
- Fertility
- Language
- Marital Status & History
- Place of Birth
- Migration
- Relationship
- School Enrollment

- Veteran Status
- Computer Ownership & Internet Access

- **ECONOMIC**

- Employment & Work Status
- Income & Earnings
- Industry & Occupation
- Class of Worker
- Commuting
- Poverty Status
- SNAP Receipt

- **DEMOGRAPHIC**

- **Age & Sex**
- **Race & Hispanic Origin**

# ACS Content: Housing

- **Age of Householder**
- House Heating Fuel
- **Household Size**
- Kitchen Facilities
- **Occupancy and Vacancy**
- **Owner Statistics**
- Plumbing Facilities
- **Race of Householder**
- **Renter Statistics**
- Rooms and Bedrooms
- Telephone Service
- **Tenure**
- Units in Structure
- Value of Home
- Vehicles Available
- Year Householder Moved Into Unit
- Year Structure Built

# Sample Design





- Target population:  
Resident population of the United States and Puerto Rico living in housing units and group quarters (GQ)

Housing Units	Group Quarters
house, apartment, mobile home, a group rooms, a single room	nursing facilities/skilled nursing facilities, in-patient hospice facilities, homeless shelters, college dorms, prisons, military barracks

- Initial sample size:  
295,000 addresses each month  
3.54 million addresses each year  
17.7 million addresses over 5-year period

# Data Collection Operations (Housing)

- Monthly samples use four sequential modes of data collection:

Online	Mail	Telephone	Personal Visit
			

# What is a Multiyear Estimate?

## Definition

An estimate encompassing more than one calendar year that describes the average characteristics of an area over a specific time period

Period for ACS multiyear estimates is either 3 or 5 calendar years

Multiyear estimates are not an average of 1-year estimates

# Data Collection Window

**2007**

Jan. 1–Dec. 31

**2008**

Jan. 1–Dec. 31

**2009**

Jan. 1–Dec. 31

**2010**

Jan. 1–Dec. 31

**2011**

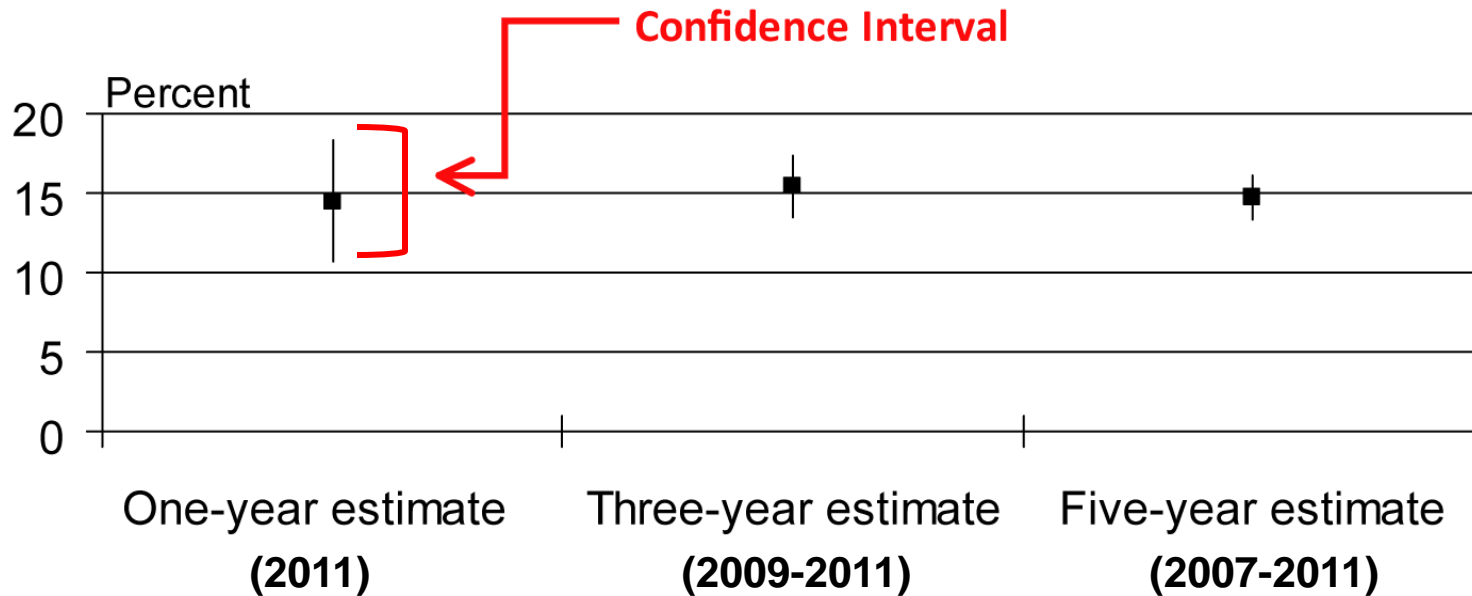
Jan. 1–Dec. 31

1-Year Est.

3-Year Estimate

5-Year Estimate

# Reliability



Note: Fictional data

# Special Tab Missing and Rounded Data

- Table Suppression
  - 50 or more sample cases for population 60+
- Age Category Suppression
  - Three or more sample cases per age group (i.e. 85+)
  - If suppressed, the next lowest subcategory age group (74-85) is also suppressed
- Rounding
  - Every estimate is rounded, so total columns may not add up exactly

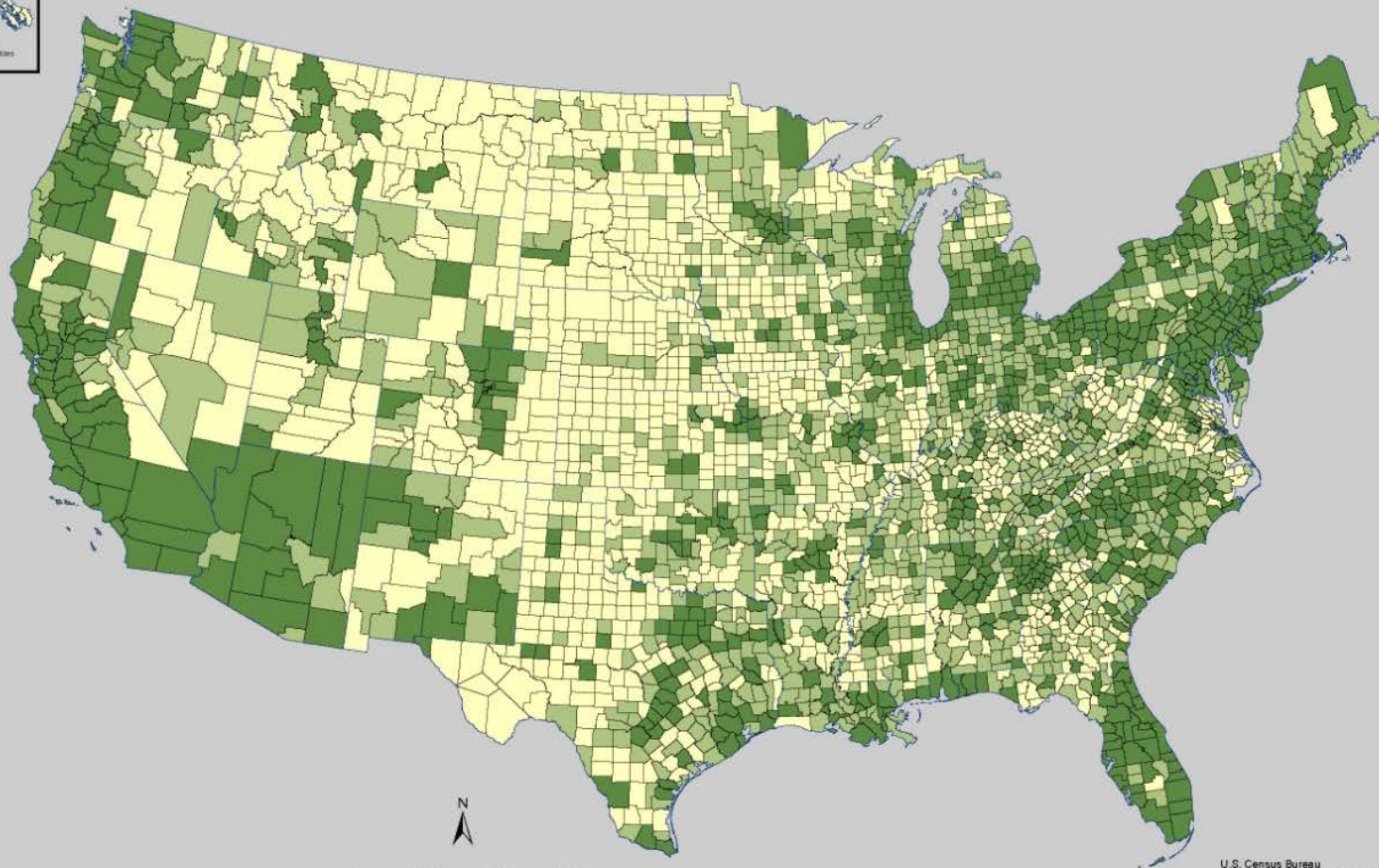
# Population Thresholds for ACS Estimates

	1-year estimates	3-year estimates	5-year estimates
65,000+ people	X	X	X
20,000+ people		X	X
Less than 20,000 people			X

Alaska



# 2011 ACS Estimate Type Availability by County



## Legend

- 1, 3, 5-Year Estimates
- 3 and 5-Year Estimates
- 5-Year Estimates Only
- State Boundary

Hawaii



U.S. Census Bureau  
American Community Survey Office  
Geography Branch  
August 2012

# Selected Census Geographies

## Legal/Administrative Areas

- Nation
- States
- Counties
- Incorporated Places
- Minor Civil Divisions
- Congressional Districts
- State Legislative Districts
- School Districts

## Statistical Areas

- Regions
- Divisions
- Census Designated Places
- Census County Divisions
- Census Tracts
- Block Groups
- Public Service Areas (PSA)

# ACS Data American FactFinder

U.S. Census Bureau

AMERICAN FactFinder

MAIN SEARCH WHAT WE PROVIDE USING FACTFINDER Feedback FAQs Glossary Help

Select Topics

Search using the options below:

**Topics**  
(age, income, year, dataset, ...)

**Geographies**  
(states, counties, places, ...)

**Race and Ethnic Groups**  
(race, ancestry, tribe)

**Industry Codes**  
(NAICS industry, ...)

**EEO Occupation Codes**  
(executives, analysts, ...)

Select Topics to add to 'Your Selections' ?

- ☒ People
- ☐ Basic Count/Estimate
- ☐ Age & Sex
- ☐ Age Group
- ☐ Disability
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Employment
- ☐ Income & Earnings
- ☐ Insurance Coverage
- ☐ Language
- ☐ Marital & Fertility Status
- ☐ Origins
- ☐ Population Change
- ☐ Poverty
- ☐ Race & Ethnicity
- ☐ Relationship
- ☐ Veterans
- ☐ Housing

# Resources for Learning More

## Questionnaire Archive

[http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/questionnaire\\_archive/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/questionnaire_archive/)

## Subject Definitions

[http://www.census.gov/acs/www/data\\_documentation/documentation\\_main/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/data_documentation/documentation_main/)

## Design and Methodology Report

[http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/methodology\\_main](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/methodology_main)

# Purpose and Types of Special Tabulations

- Purpose
  - Specific geographic needs – PSAs
  - Unique age group – 60+
- Types
  - Special Tabulation on Aging
  - Special Tabulation on Aging, Disability Tables
  - Decennial Census Special Tabulation

# Expected Updates for Special Tabulations

Special Tabulations	Currently available in AGID	Expected Update
ACS Special Tabulation on Aging	2007-2011 2005-2009	2008-2012 data in Spring 2014
ACS Special Tabulation on Aging, Disability Tables	2009-2011 2008-2010	2008-2012 data in Spring 2014
Decennial Census Special Tabulation on Aging	2010	2020 data in 2022

# Examples of how ACS Special Tabulation Data are Used

- Serving as a component in OAA allocation formulas
- Planning programs and services for older adults
- Comparing populations within and across state boundaries



# Click on “Data Files” at [www.agid.acl.gov](http://www.agid.acl.gov)

About AGID | Release Notes | Data Sources | Instructional Videos | FAQ



**AoA Administration on Aging**  
**AGing Integrated Database (AGID)**

The AGing Integrated Database (AGID) is an on-line query system based on AoA-related data files and surveys, and includes population characteristics from the Census Bureau for comparison purposes. The four options or paths through AGID provide different levels of focus and aggregation of the data – from individual data elements within Data-at-a-Glance to full database access within Data Files.

To begin your query, please select from one of the four options below and follow the system prompts. If assistance is needed, please review the Resources section of AGID for instructional videos, information on the data sources, and frequently asked questions.



**Data-at-a-Glance**  
Quick estimates in map, chart, or tabular form



**State Profiles**  
State-level summaries and comparisons



**Custom Tables**  
Detailed multi-year tables



**Data Files**  
Download data files and documentation

**What's New**

- Aug 02** Release of version 2.8.1: 2011 ACS Special Tabulations, 2011 Title VI Data 2.8.1 of the website was released. This release featured the addition of the 2007-2011 ACS Special Tabulation, the 2009-2011 ACS Special Tabulation, Disability Tables, and the 2011 Title VI data. ([more](#))
- Jul 05** Release of version 2.8.0: 2011 ACS and State Profiles 2.8.0 of the website was released. This release featured the addition of 2011 ACS data and the State Profiles section was updated to years 2007-2011. ([more](#))
- May 30** Release of Version 2.7.2: Decennial Census Special Tabulation 2.7.2 of the website was released. This release featured the addition of the 2010 Census Special Tabulation data. ([more](#))

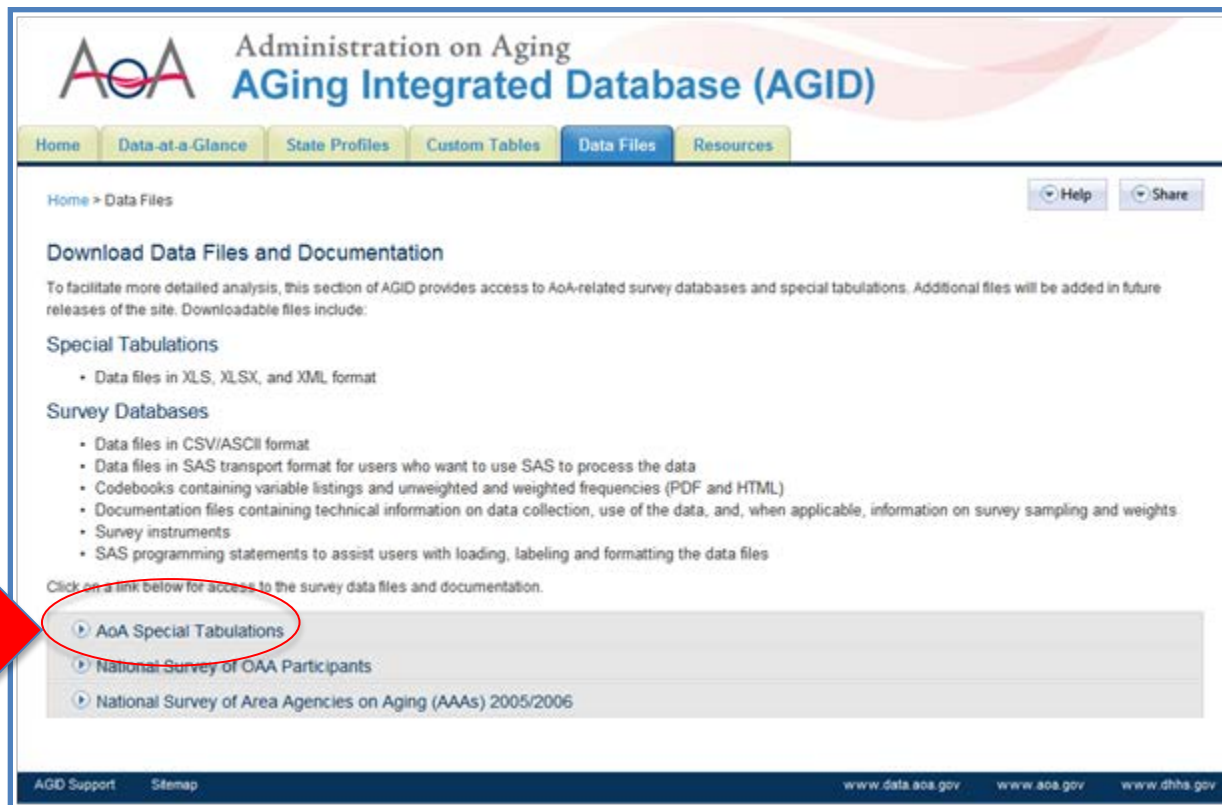
[View all](#)

**Resources**

- [About AGID](#)
- [Release Notes](#)
- [Data Sources](#)
- [Instructional Videos](#)
- [FAQ](#)

AGID Support Sitemap [www.data.aoa.gov](http://www.data.aoa.gov) [www.aoa.gov](http://www.aoa.gov) [www.dhhs.gov](http://www.dhhs.gov)

# Click on “AoA Special Tabulations”



The screenshot shows the Administration on Aging (AoA) AGID website. The header includes the AoA logo and the text "Administration on Aging AGing Integrated Database (AGID)". A navigation bar contains links: Home, Data-at-a-Glance, State Profiles, Custom Tables, Data Files (highlighted), and Resources. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb "Home > Data Files" is shown. The main content area is titled "Download Data Files and Documentation" and includes a paragraph about the section's purpose. It lists "Special Tabulations" (Data files in XLS, XLSX, and XML format) and "Survey Databases" (Data files in CSV/ASCII format, SAS transport format, Codebooks, Documentation files, Survey instruments, and SAS programming statements). A red arrow points to the "AoA Special Tabulations" link in the list of survey data files. The footer contains links for AGID Support, Sitemap, and three website URLs: www.data.aos.gov, www.aos.gov, and www.dhhs.gov.

**AoA** Administration on Aging  
**AGing Integrated Database (AGID)**

Home Data-at-a-Glance State Profiles Custom Tables **Data Files** Resources

Home > Data Files Help Share

### Download Data Files and Documentation

To facilitate more detailed analysis, this section of AGID provides access to AoA-related survey databases and special tabulations. Additional files will be added in future releases of the site. Downloadable files include:

#### Special Tabulations

- Data files in XLS, XLSX, and XML format

#### Survey Databases

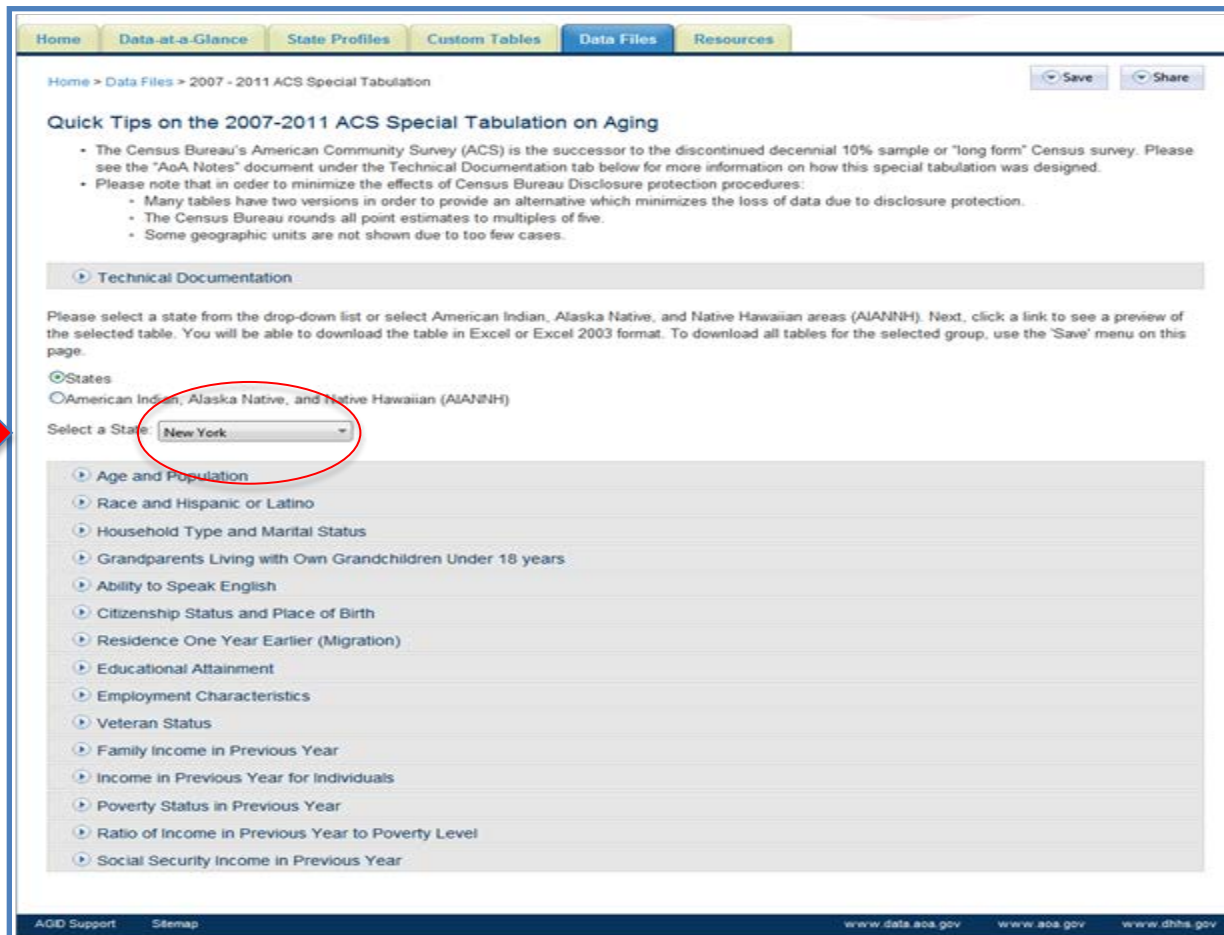
- Data files in CSV/ASCII format
- Data files in SAS transport format for users who want to use SAS to process the data
- Codebooks containing variable listings and unweighted and weighted frequencies (PDF and HTML)
- Documentation files containing technical information on data collection, use of the data, and, when applicable, information on survey sampling and weights
- Survey instruments
- SAS programming statements to assist users with loading, labeling and formatting the data files

Click on a link below for access to the survey data files and documentation.

- ▶ **AoA Special Tabulations**
- ▶ National Survey of OAA Participants
- ▶ National Survey of Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) 2005/2006

AGID Support Sitemap www.data.aos.gov www.aos.gov www.dhhs.gov

# Pick a state or AIANNH, then pick a subject



Home Data at a Glance State Profiles Custom Tables **Data Files** Resources

Home > Data Files > 2007 - 2011 ACS Special Tabulation

Save Share

### Quick Tips on the 2007-2011 ACS Special Tabulation on Aging

- The Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) is the successor to the discontinued decennial 10% sample or "long form" Census survey. Please see the "AoA Notes" document under the Technical Documentation tab below for more information on how this special tabulation was designed.
- Please note that in order to minimize the effects of Census Bureau Disclosure protection procedures:
  - Many tables have two versions in order to provide an alternative which minimizes the loss of data due to disclosure protection.
  - The Census Bureau rounds all point estimates to multiples of five.
  - Some geographic units are not shown due to too few cases.

Technical Documentation

Please select a state from the drop-down list or select American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian areas (AIANNH). Next, click a link to see a preview of the selected table. You will be able to download the table in Excel or Excel 2003 format. To download all tables for the selected group, use the 'Save' menu on this page.

☒ States  
☐ American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian (AIANNH)

Select a State: **New York**

- Age and Population
- Race and Hispanic or Latino
- Household Type and Marital Status
- Grandparents Living with Own Grandchildren Under 18 years
- Ability to Speak English
- Citizenship Status and Place of Birth
- Residence One Year Earlier (Migration)
- Educational Attainment
- Employment Characteristics
- Veteran Status
- Family Income in Previous Year
- Income in Previous Year for Individuals
- Poverty Status in Previous Year
- Ratio of Income in Previous Year to Poverty Level
- Social Security Income in Previous Year

AGID Support Sitemap www.data.acs.gov www.acs.gov www.dhhs.gov

# Save the table as an Excel file for easy calculations

**AOA** Administration on Aging  
**AGing Integrated Database (AGID)**

Home Data-at-a-Glance State Profiles Custom Tables **Data Files** Resources

Home > Data Files > 2007 - 2011 ACS Special Tabulation > 2007 - 2011 ACS Special Tabulation Table Preview

**New York 2007-2011**  
Table S21009 - Hispanic or Latino and Race by Sex by Living Alone for the Population 60 Years and Over  
Universe: Population 60 years and over  
[Based on a sample. Rounded data. Data are suppressed for geographic areas if they do not meet the specified population threshold.]

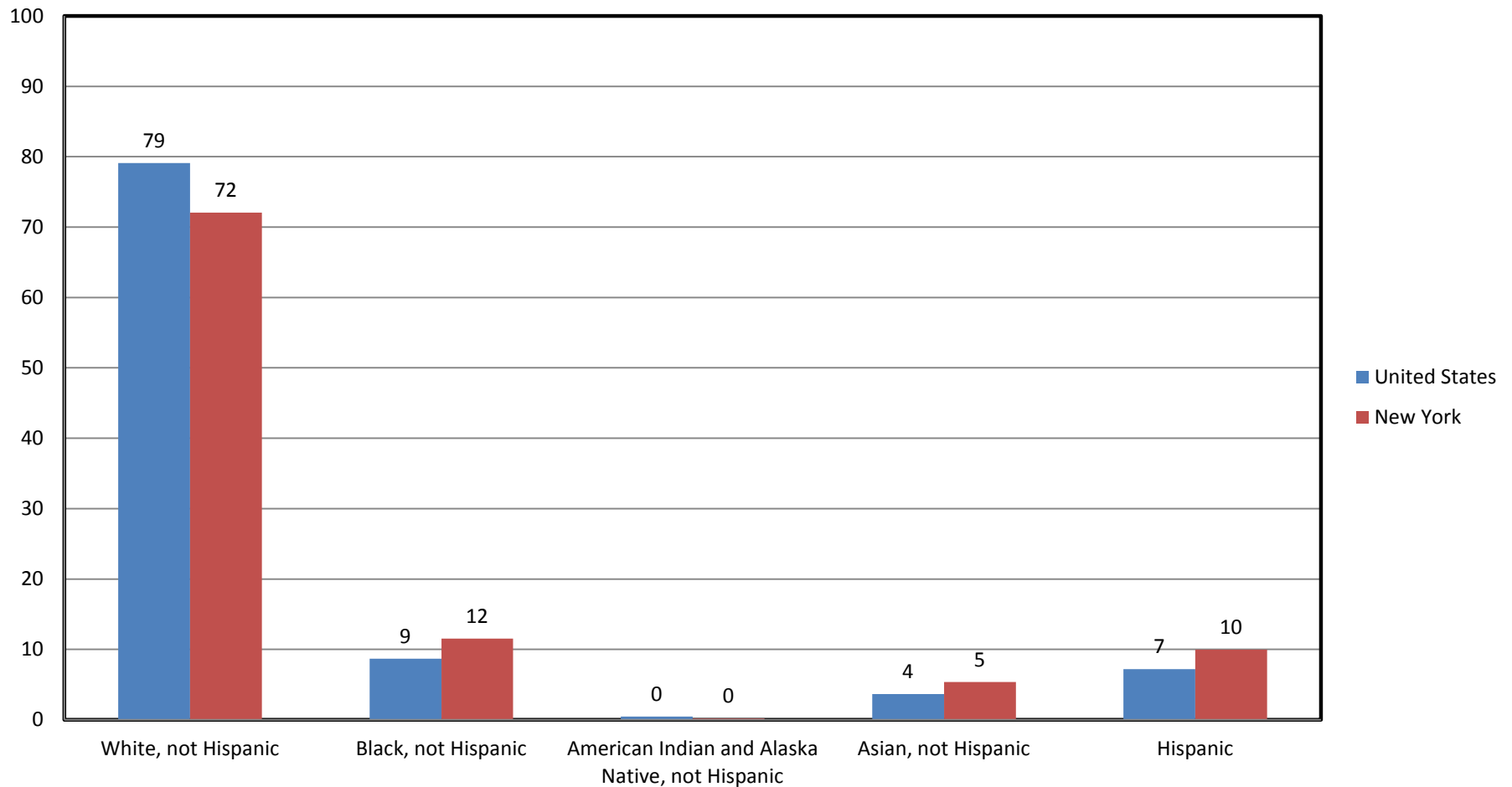
**Save** **Share**

Excel  
Excel 2003

Geography		Total:		Not Hispanic or Latino, Subtotal		White alone, Subtotal		Male, Subtotal		Male: Living alone		Not
		Estimate	Standard Error	Estimate	Standard Error	Estimate	Standard Error	Estimate	Standard Error	Estimate	Standard Error	
Geographic ID	Geographic Name											
01000US	United States	54,161,060	16,780	50,252,195	15,944	42,844,610	13,401	19,407,555	8,274	3,382,275	16,358	16,025
04000US36	New York	3,479,570	3,410	3,132,510	2,768	2,507,685	2,570	1,108,915	1,912	207,640	1,938	901
00000US3600001	PSA 1	55,730	476	54,880	472	49,430	454	21,570	247	4,835	214	16
00000US3600002	PSA 2	9,825	133	9,785	131	9,670	136	4,720	67	980	73	3
00000US3600003	PSA 3	42,285	441	41,950	433	40,465	428	17,350	224	3,580	181	13
00000US3600004	PSA 4	14,925	180	14,885	180	14,705	181	6,875	105	1,370	90	5
00000US3600005	PSA 5	15,905	212	15,790	209	15,530	203	7,015	137	1,340	119	5
00000US3600006	PSA 6	28,825	274	28,420	266	27,970	255	12,925	138	2,660	174	10
00000US3600007	PSA 7	18,310	257	18,190	261	17,445	257	7,840	155	1,495	121	6
00000US3600008	PSA 8	10,885	171	10,790	173	10,630	164	4,990	104	870	90	4

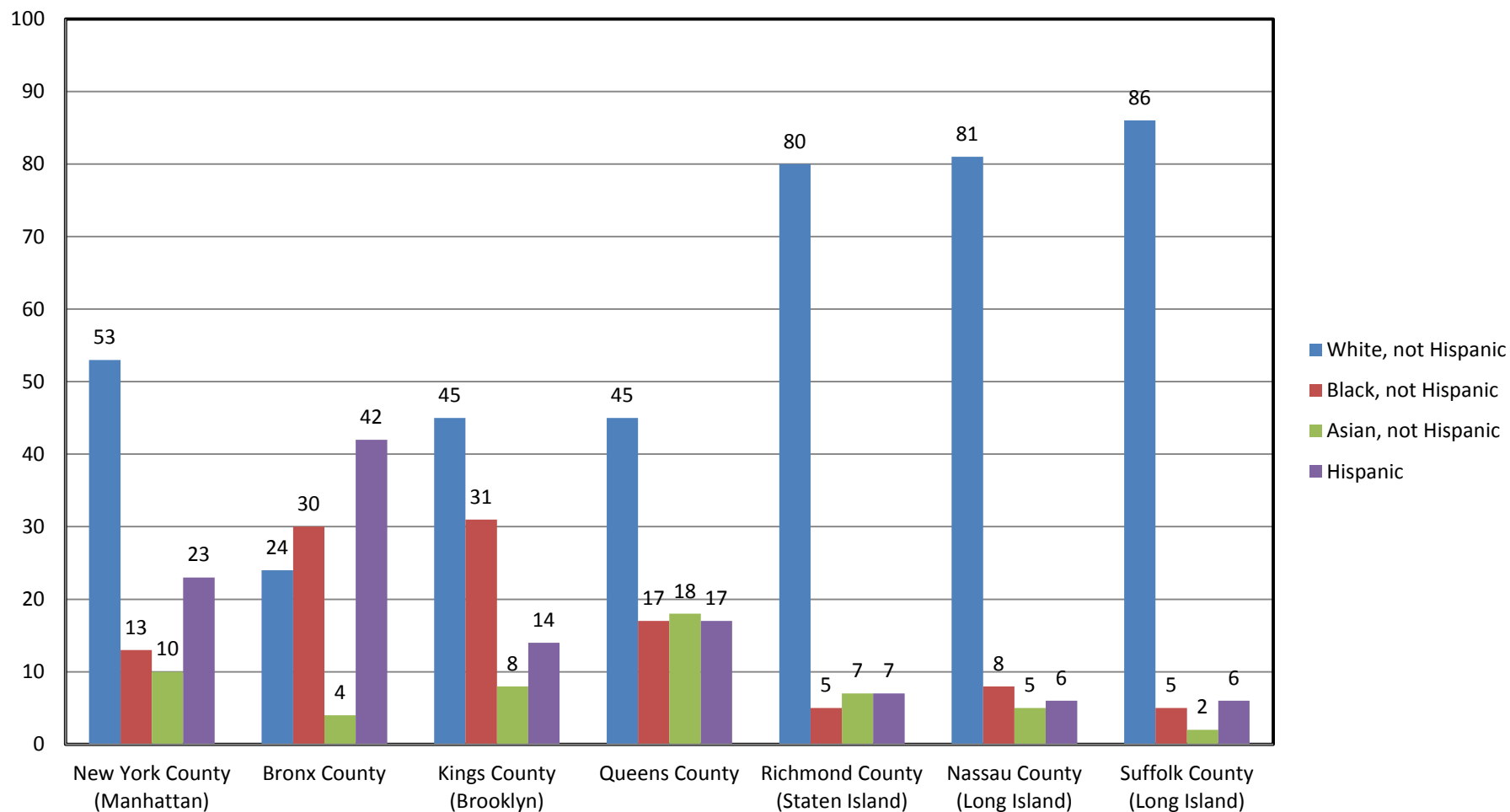
AGID Support Sitemap [www.data.aoa.gov](http://www.data.aoa.gov) [www.aoa.gov](http://www.aoa.gov) [www.dhhs.gov](http://www.dhhs.gov)

## Percentage of population age 60 and over in New York and United States, by race and Hispanic origin, 2007-2011



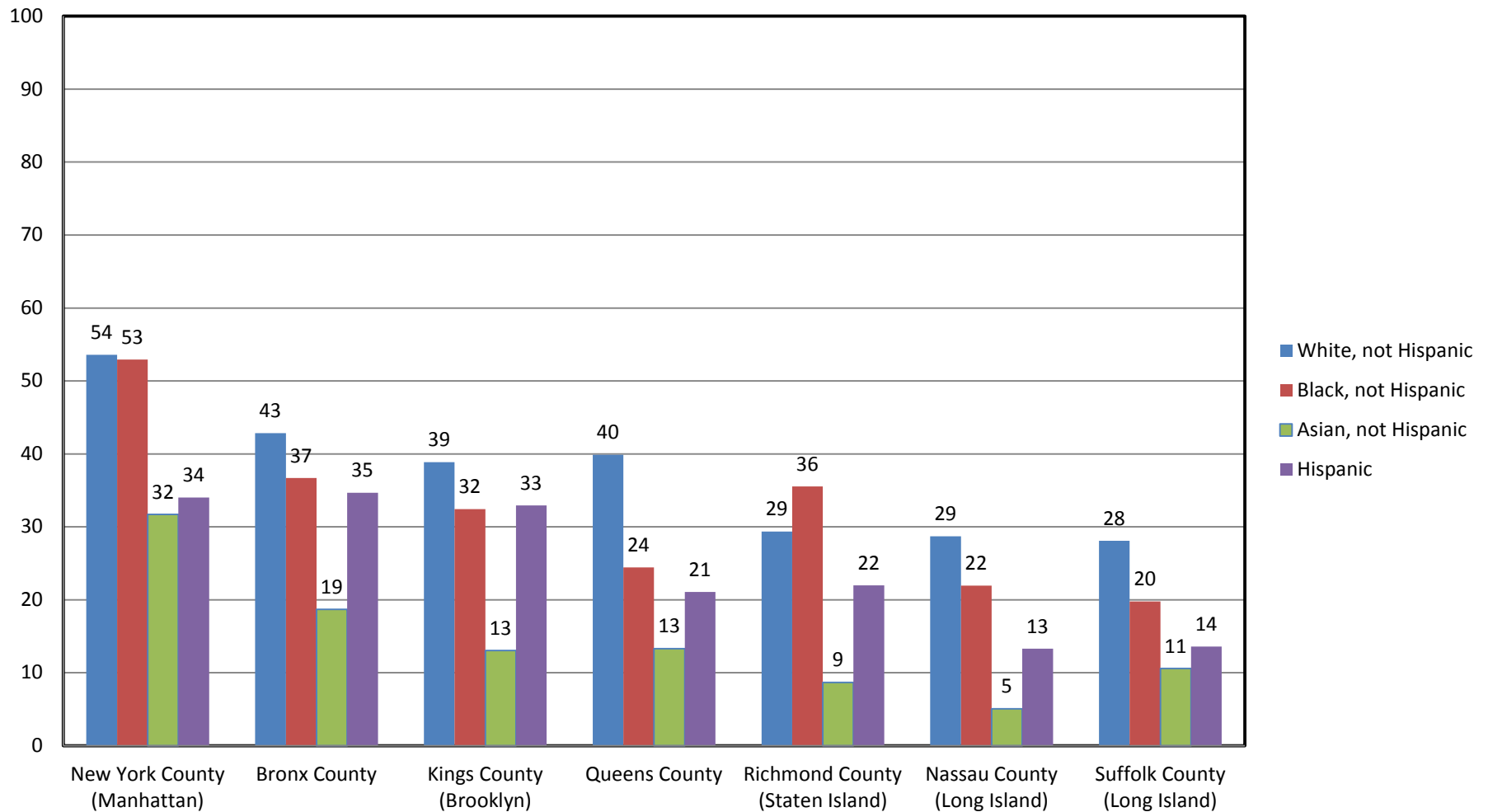
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007-2011.

## Percentage of population age 60 and over in New York City and Long Island, by race and Hispanic origin, 2007-2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007-2011.

## Percentage of women age 60 and over living alone in New York City and Long Island, by race and Hispanic origin, 2007-2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007-2011.

# Plans for Future Special Tabulations

## **ACS Poverty Status**

- 2007-2011 – Data for all areas

## **ACS Health Insurance by Disability Status**

- 2009-2011 – Areas with populations of 20,000+

## **ACS Special Tabulation on Aging**

- 2008-2012 – Data for all areas

# Summary

Please provide us with feedback on whether the special tabulations are meeting your data needs.

Send email to [Kristen.Robinson@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:Kristen.Robinson@acl.hhs.gov)

## For more information about ACL

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living, Washington DC 20201

Phone: (202) 619-0724 Email: [aclinfo@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:aclinfo@acl.hhs.gov) Web: [www.acl.gov](http://www.acl.gov)



# ACS Contact Information

Visit the ACS/PRCS website:

[www.census.gov/acs](http://www.census.gov/acs)

Contact by telephone:

1-800-923-8282

Submit a question:

[ask.census.gov](http://ask.census.gov)